



U.S. Small Business Administration

SBA InnovateHer Challenge Looks for Host Organizations

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana — The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Indiana District Office is looking for local businesses, community groups, and educational institutions interested in serving as Host Organizations during the 2017 InnovateHER: Innovating for Women Business Challenge competition. SBA Indiana District Office Director Stacey Poynter says that serving as a Host Organization is an excellent opportunity to show community support for female business trailblazers with innovative ideas.

"Over the past two decades, women entrepreneurs have been critical to growing businesses and creating jobs in cutting-edge fields such as precision medicine or cybersecurity, as well as through advances in agriculture and manufacturing," Poynter says. "A lack of inclusion in the innovation space leads to missed opportunities for women. This is why we encourage organizations across the state to participate as a Host Organization in this important business challenge."

To serve as an InnovateHER Host Organization, you must send a written request to SBA via womenbusiness@sba.gov no later than April 19, 2017, with the following information:

- The organization's official legal name, street address, city, and state;
- Website of the organization (if applicable); and
- The name of the organization's designated Point of Contact (POC) for the local competition; his/her email address, and phone number.

InnovateHER is a nationwide business competition for female entrepreneurs who develop innovative products and services. Competitors vie for \$70,000 in prize money provided to SBA through a gift from the Sara Blakely Foundation.

For more information, contact the Indiana District Office InnovateHER Program Manager Brenda (Luann) Lieurance at 317-226-7272 ext. 114 or via email at brenda.lieurance@sba.gov.

SBA's acceptance of this gift from the Sara Blakely Foundation does not constitute an endorsement of the views, opinions, products or services of the donor or any other person or entity. All SBA programs and services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance.